

# Accessibility for All!



## North Wayne Elementary is Making it Happen!



**WE ARE** North Wayne Elementary, a K-6th grade elementary in MSD of Wayne Township. We educate over 935 students, including being one of the district's Life Skills program sites.

**OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES** North Wayne Elementary serves a diverse population of over 935 students. Our population includes a student body that is 58% Black, 30% Hispanic, 6% White, 5% Multi-Racial and 1% Asian & Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander.

**OUR TEACHERS** are focused, centered and determined to meet the needs of all students in our building.

**OUR PROMISING PRACTICE** is to make sure that all students have a chance to interact and play together, regardless of physical or cognitive ability. When our playground for kindergarten and Life Skills program students was keeping Life Skills students from being able to actively, safely and appropriately play, we took action to replace the original, inaccessible playground with one that is accessible for all.

**OUR STEPS** Through grant writing, crowd-funding and community support, we were able to raise over \$100,000 to build a new, fully-accessible playground. Now, our Life Skills and kindergarten students can play and engage together in play. Generous support from Google, Android Pay and Wood-Mizer allowed us to build a playground with ramps, accessible swings and interactive stations. Our students are able to play regardless of ability level—increasing independence, developmentally appropriate activities and social skills. This playground will serve our students and community for years to come. It will always be a reminder that at North Wayne, we work together to find solutions for our students.

**IN OUR OWN WORDS** By creating an inclusive environment, we build bonds between our students that lead to stronger partnerships and a greater acceptance of all. It encourages understanding that differences should be celebrated and understood, not cause separation. We believe that ability should not stand in the way of anyone getting to play and interact with their peers. The environment that our new playground creates reflects our school belief that all students should be given whatever they need to succeed.

For more information about our school or corporation, email: *Principal Aretha Britton*, [Aretha.Britton@wayne.k12.in.us](mailto:Aretha.Britton@wayne.k12.in.us), call 317-988-6100 or visit our website at [www.wayne.k12.in.us/nwe/default.asp](http://www.wayne.k12.in.us/nwe/default.asp)